

Appln. No. 10/783,587  
Filing Date: February 20, 2004  
Reply to Office action mailed May 4, 2009  
Amendment dated September 8, 2009

**Amendments to the Claims:**

The following listing of the claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Claims 1-21 (Canceled).

Claim 22. (Currently amended) A method of operating a communication system, the method comprising:

~~sending sending, by a first terminal via a communication link link,~~ a message requesting routing of a call ~~from the first terminal to a second terminal;~~ ~~receiving receiving, by the first terminal via the communication link link,~~ a message comprising call routing information ~~identifying one or more call routes through a network;~~

~~selecting selecting, at the first terminal, a call route based upon the call routing information; and~~

~~transmitting transmitting, by the first terminal via the communication link link,~~ a message requesting setup of the call ~~from the first terminal to the second terminal~~ using the selected call route.

Claim 23. (Currently amended) The method of claim 22 wherein the call is a voice call.

Claim 24. (Currently amended) The method of claim 22 wherein the selecting further comprises:

~~providing a user of the first terminal with call routing options using the call routing information; and~~

~~receiving from the user of the first terminal an indication of a selected call route.~~

Claim 25. (Previously presented) The method of claim 22 wherein the communication link is a wireless link.

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Claim 26. (Previously presented) The method of claim 25 wherein the wireless link communicates using a frequency of approximately 2.4 gigahertz.

Claim 27. (Previously presented) The method of claim 25 wherein the wireless link communicates using a frequency hopping spread spectrum technique.

Claim 28. (Previously presented) The method of claim 22 wherein the communication link uses a packet protocol.

Claim 29. (Previously presented) The method of claim 28 wherein the packet protocol is an Internet protocol.

Claim 30. (Previously presented) The method of claim 22 wherein the message requesting routing of a call comprises at least a destination identifier.

Claim 31. (Previously presented) The method of claim 30 wherein the destination identifier comprises a telephone number.

Claim 32. (Previously presented) The method of claim 22 wherein the call routing information comprises a cost of use of a communication link.

Claim 33. (Previously presented) The method of claim 22 wherein the message requesting setup of the call comprises at least a destination identifier.

Claim 34. (Previously presented) The method of claim 33 wherein the destination identifier comprises a telephone number.

Claim 35. (Currently amended) The method of claim 22 further comprising:

~~receiving receiving, at the first terminal via the communication link link,~~ a message indicating call status.

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Claim 36. (Previously presented) The method of claim 35 wherein the call status represents one of a destination busy condition, a destination ringing condition, and a connection established condition.

Claim 37. (Currently amended) The method of claim 22 further comprising:

~~Exchanging information communicating information, by the first terminal to the second terminal via the communication link, if call status indicating establishment of a connection is received by the first terminal; and refraining from exchanging information communicating information, by the first terminal to the second terminal via the communication link, if call status indicating establishment of a connection is not received by the first terminal.~~

Claim 38. (Currently amended) A method for operating a communication system, the method comprising:

~~Receiving receiving, from a first terminal via a first communication link link, a message requesting routing of a call to a second terminal;~~  
~~selecting a second communication link based upon at least the message requesting routing of [[a]] the call;~~  
~~sending, to the first terminal via the first communication link, call routing information identifying one or more call routes through a network;~~  
~~accepting accepting, from the first terminal via the first communication link link, a message requesting setup of [[a]] the call and a selected call route; and establishing call communication between the first terminal and the second terminal via the first communication link and the second communication link based upon the message requesting setup of [[a]] the call and the selected call route.~~

Claim 39. (Previously presented) The method of claim 38 wherein the call is a voice call.

Claim 40. (Currently amended) The method of claim 38 further comprising:

receiving via the second communication link a message comprising call routing information; and

~~transmitting transmitting, to the first terminal via the first communication link link,~~ a message based upon the call routing information.

Claim 41. (Previously presented) The method of claim 38 wherein the first communication link is a wireless link.

Claim 42. (Previously presented) The method of claim 41 wherein the wireless link communicates using a frequency of approximately 2.4 gigahertz.

Claim 43. (Previously presented) The method of claim 41 wherein the wireless link communicates using a frequency hopping spread spectrum technique.

Claim 44. (Previously presented) The method of claim 38 wherein the first communication link uses a packet protocol.

Claim 45. (Previously presented) The method of claim 44 wherein the packet protocol is an Internet protocol.

Claim 46. (Previously presented) The method of claim 38 wherein the second communication link is a wired communication link.

Claim 47. (Previously presented) The method of claim 46 wherein the wired communication link comprises a link to a conventional telephone switching network.

Claim 48. (Previously presented) The method of claim 46 wherein the wired communication link is an analog communication link.

Claim 49. (Previously presented) The method of claim 38 wherein the message requesting routing of a call comprises at least a destination identifier.

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Claim 50. (Previously presented) The method of claim 49 wherein the destination identifier comprises a telephone number.

Claim 51. (Previously presented) The method of claim 40 wherein the call routing information comprises at least a cost of use of a communication link.

Claim 52. (Previously presented) The method of claim 38 wherein the message requesting setup of the call comprises at least a destination identifier.

Claim 53. (Previously presented) The method of claim 52 wherein the destination identifier comprises a telephone number.

Claim 54. (Previously presented) The method of claim 38 further comprising:  
receiving via the second communication link a message indicating call status.

Claim 55. (Previously presented) The method of claim 54 wherein the call status is one of busy, ringing, and connect.

Claim 56. (Previously presented) The method of claim 38 wherein the establishing comprises converting analog representations of voice signals to digital representations of voice signals, and converting digital representations of voice signals to analog representations of voice signals.

Claim 57. (Previously presented) The method of claim 56 wherein the converting digital representations of voice signals to analog representations of voice signals comprises buffering the digital representations for a period of time in order to minimize gaps in the resulting analog representation caused by changes in a propagation delay.

Claim 58. (Currently amended) A method of operating a communication system, the method comprising:

under the control of a first device,

sending via a wireless packet communication link a message requesting routing of a call through a network to a third device;  
receiving via the wireless packet communication link call routing information identifying one or more call routes to the third device;  
sending via [[a]] the wireless packet communication link a message requesting setup of a call to the third device using a route selected from the identified call routes;  
receiving via the wireless packet communication link a message indicating call status;  
exchanging communicating digitized voice information to the third device via the wireless packet communication link, if call status indicating establishment of a connection is received; and  
refraining from exchanging communicating digitized voice information via the wireless packet communication link, if call status indicating establishment of a connection is not received, and under the control of a second device,  
receiving receiving, from the first device via the wireless packet communication link link, a message requesting setup of the call;  
sending via a wired communication link signals requesting setup of the call;  
receiving via the wired communication link signals representing call status;  
sending sending, to the first device via the wireless packet communication link link, a message indicating call status;  
establishing call communication between the wireless packet communication link and the wired communication link, if call status indicating establishment of a connection is received; and

refraining from establishing call communication between the wireless packet communication link and the wired communication link, if call status indicating establishment of a connection is not received.

Claim 59. (Previously presented) The method of claim 58 wherein the call communication comprises converting analog representations of voice signals to digital representations of voice signals, and converting digital representations of voice signals to analog representations of voice signals.

Claim 60. (Previously presented) The method of claim 59 wherein the converting digital representations of voice signals to analog representations of voice signals comprises buffering the digital representations for a period of time in order to minimize gaps in the resulting analog representation caused by changes in a propagation delay.

Claim 61. (Previously presented) The method of claim 58 wherein the wireless communication link operates at a frequency of approximately 2.4 gigahertz.

Claim 62. (Previously presented) The method of claim 58 wherein the wired communication link comprises a link to a conventional telephone switching network.

Claim 63. (Previously presented) The method of claim 58 wherein the wireless packet communication link uses an Internet protocol (IP).

Claim 64. (Previously presented) The method of claim 63 wherein the Internet protocol is the transmission control protocol (TCP)/Internet protocol (IP).

Claim 65. (Currently amended) At least one circuit for use in a communication device, the at least one circuit operational to, at least:

Send send, by the communication device via a communication link link, a message requesting routing of a call from the communication device to a second communication device;

~~receive receive, by the communication device via the communication link link,~~ a message comprising call routing information ~~identifying one or more call routes through a network;~~

~~select select, at the communication device, a call route based upon the call routing information; and~~

~~transmit transmit, by the communication device via the communication link link, a message requesting setup of the call from the communication device to the second communication device using the selected call route.~~

Claim 66. (Previously presented) The at least one circuit of claim 65, where the call is a voice call.

Claim 67. (Previously presented) The at least one circuit of claim 65, wherein to select a call route based upon the call routing information, the at least one circuit is operational to, at least:

provide a user with call routing options using the call routing information;  
and

receive from the user an indication of a selected call route.

Claim 68. (Previously presented) The at least one circuit of claim 65, where the communication link is a wireless link.

Claim 69. (Previously presented) The at least one circuit of claim 68, where the wireless link communicates using a frequency of approximately 2.4 gigahertz.

Claim 70. (Previously presented) The at least one circuit of claim 68, where the wireless link communicates using a frequency hopping spread spectrum technique.

Claim 71. (Previously presented) The at least one circuit of claim 65, where the communication link uses a packet protocol.

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Claim 72. (Previously presented) The at least one circuit of claim 71, where the packet protocol is an Internet protocol.

Claim 73. (Previously presented) The at least one circuit of claim 65, where the message requesting routing of a call comprises at least a destination identifier.

Claim 74. (Previously presented) The at least one circuit of claim 73, where the destination identifier comprises a telephone number.

Claim 75. (Previously presented) The at least one circuit of claim 65, where the call routing information comprises a cost of use of a communication link.

Claim 76. (Previously presented) The at least one circuit of claim 65, where the message requesting setup of a call comprises at least a destination identifier.

Claim 77. (Previously presented) The at least one circuit of claim 76, where the destination identifier comprises a telephone number.

Claim 78. (Previously presented) The at least one circuit of claim 65, wherein the at least one circuit is further operational to, at least, receive via the communication link a message indicating call status.

Claim 79. (Previously presented) The at least one circuit of claim 78, where the call status represents one of a destination busy condition, a destination ringing condition, and a connection established condition.

Claim 80. (Currently amended) The at least one circuit of claim 65, wherein the at least one circuit is further operational to, at least:

~~exchange information~~ communicate information, by the communication device to the second communication device via the communication link, if call status indicating establishment of a connection is received by the communication device; and

refrain from exchanging information communicating information, by the communication device to the second communication device via the communication link, if call status indicating establishment of a connection is not received by the communication device.

Claim 81. (Previously presented) The at least one circuit of claim 65, where the communication device is a portable communication device.

Claim 82. (Currently amended) A method for operating at least one circuit for use in a communication device, the method comprising:

sending sending, from the communication device to a communication system via a first communication link link, a first message requesting call routing information identifying call routes for routing of a call from the communication device to a second communication device through a network, where the first message comprises information to cause the communication system to send to the communication device the call routes used to select a second communication link; and

sending sending, from the communication device to the communication system via the first communication link link, a second message requesting setup of [[a]] the call according to a selected one of the identified call routes, where the second message comprises information to cause the communication system to establish call communication between the communication device and the second communication device using the first communication link and the second communication link.

Claim 83. (Previously presented) The method of claim 82, where the call is a voice call.

Claim 84. (Currently amended) The method of claim 82, further comprising receiving receiving, by the communication device from the communication system via

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the first communication link, a message based upon call routing information received by the communication system over the second communication link.

Claim 85. (Previously presented) The method of claim 82, where the first communication link is a wireless link.

Claim 86. (Previously presented) The method of claim 85, where the wireless link communicates using a frequency of approximately 2.4 gigahertz.

Claim 87. (Previously presented) The method of claim 85, where the wireless link communicates using a frequency hopping spread spectrum technique.

Claim 88. (Previously presented) The method of claim 82, where the first communication link uses a packet protocol.

Claim 89. (Previously presented) The method of claim 88, where the packet protocol is an Internet protocol.

Claim 90. (Previously presented) The method of claim 82, where the second communication link is a wired communication link.

Claim 91. (Previously presented) The method of claim 90, where the wired communication link comprises a link to a conventional telephone switching network.

Claim 92. (Previously presented) The method of claim 90, where the wired communication link is an analog communication link.

Claim 93. (Previously presented) The method of claim 82, where the first message requesting routing of a call comprises at least a destination identifier.

Claim 94. (Previously presented) The method of claim 93, where the destination identifier comprises a telephone number.

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Claim 95. (Previously presented) The method of claim 84, where the call routing information comprises at least a cost of use of a communication link.

Claim 96. (Previously presented) The method of claim 82, where the second message requesting setup of a call comprises at least a destination identifier.

Claim 97. (Previously presented) The method of claim 96, where the destination identifier comprises a telephone number.

Claim 98. (Currently amended) The method of claim 82, further comprising receiving a message at the communication device from the communication system via the first communication link, where the message is indicative of a call status message received by the communication system via the second communication link.

Claim 99. (Previously presented) The method of claim 98, where the call status is one of busy, ringing, and connect.

Claim 100. (Previously presented) The method of claim 82, where the second message comprises information to cause the communication system to establish call communication between the first communication link and the second communication link by, at least in part, converting analog representations of voice signals to digital representations of voice signals and converting digital representations of voice signals to analog representations of voice signals.

Claim 101. (Previously presented) The method of claim 100, where converting digital representations of voice signals to analog representations of voice signals comprises buffering the digital representations for a period of time to minimize gaps in the resulting analog representation caused by changes in propagation delay.

Claim 102. (Currently amended) At least one circuit for use in a communication device, the at least one circuit operational to, at least:

send send, from the communication device to a communication system via a first communication link link, a first message requesting call routing information identifying call routes for routing of a call from the communication device to a second communication device through a network, where the first message comprises information to cause the communication system to send to the communication device the call routes used to select a second communication link; and

send send, from the communication device to the communication system via the first communication link link, a second message requesting setup of [[a]] the call according to a selected one of the identified call routes, where the second message comprises information to cause the communication system to establish call communication between the communication device and the second communication device using the first communication link and the second communication link.

Claim 103. (Previously presented) The at least one circuit of claim 102, where the call is a voice call.

Claim 104. (Currently amended) The at least one circuit of claim 102, wherein the at least one circuit is further operational to, at least, receive receive, by the communication device from the communication system via the first communication link link, a message based upon call routing information received by the communication system over the second communication link.

Claim 105. (Previously presented) The at least one circuit of claim 102, where the first communication link is a wireless link.

Claim 106. (Previously presented) The at least one circuit of claim 105, where the wireless link communicates using a frequency of approximately 2.4 gigahertz.

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Claim 107. (Previously presented) The at least one circuit of claim 105, where the wireless link communicates using a frequency hopping spread spectrum technique.

Claim 108. (Previously presented) The at least one circuit of claim 102, where the first communication link uses a packet protocol.

Claim 109. (Previously presented) The at least one circuit of claim 108, where the packet protocol is an Internet protocol.

Claim 110. (Previously presented) The at least one circuit of claim 102, where the second communication link is a wired communication link.

Claim 111. (Previously presented) The at least one circuit of claim 110, where the wired communication link comprises a link to a conventional telephone switching network.

Claim 112. (Previously presented) The at least one circuit of claim 110, where the wired communication link is an analog communication link.

Claim 113. (Previously presented) The at least one circuit of claim 102, where the first message requesting routing of a call comprises at least a destination identifier.

Claim 114. (Previously presented) The at least one circuit of claim 113, where the destination identifier comprises a telephone number.

Claim 115. (Previously presented) The at least one circuit of claim 104, where the call routing information comprises at least a cost of use of a communication link.

Claim 116. (Previously presented) The at least one circuit of claim 102, where the second message requesting setup of the call comprises at least a destination identifier.

Claim 117. (Previously presented) The at least one circuit of claim 116, where the destination identifier comprises a telephone number.

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Claim 118. (Currently amended) The at least one circuit of claim 102, wherein the at least one circuit is further operational to, at least, receive a message at the communication device from the communication system via the first communication link, where the message is indicative of a call status message received by the communication system via the second communication link.

Claim 119. (Previously presented) The at least one circuit of claim 118, where the call status is one of busy, ringing, and connect.

Claim 120. (Previously presented) The at least one circuit of claim 102, where the second message comprises information to cause the communication system to establish call communication between the first communication link and the second communication link by, at least in part converting analog representations of voice signals to digital representations of voice signals and converting digital representations of voice signals to analog representations of voice signals.

Claim 121. (Previously presented) The at least one circuit of claim 120, where converting digital representations of voice signals to analog representations of voice signals comprises buffering the digital representations for a period of time to minimize gaps in the resulting analog representation caused by changes in propagation delay.